

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, STATE OF TEXAS, }
AUSTIN, June 4, 1873. }

Hon. E. B. Pickett, President of the Senate:

SIR: I return to the Senate, where it originated, the act entitled "An act to provide for the printing of the general laws of the State in the German and Spanish languages."

Also the act entitled "An act supplemental to and explanatory of an act to provide for the printing of the general laws of the State in the German and Spanish languages."

The latter bill is an amendment to the former, limiting its construction so as to apply only to the printing of the general laws of this session.

As the act originally stood it might have cost upwards of a hundred thousand dollars, but even as amended it will cost from twelve to sixteen thousand dollars.

I think this is an unnecessary expenditure. The few laws of a really general nature, that affect the mass of the people, will be printed in the public press both in German and Spanish without any cost to the tax-payer.

At any rate I do not believe that our German and Spanish fellow-citizens have any desire to see and read the deluge of bills fixing a limit of the sale of liquor from one to six miles from some school house or church, or the bills giving headright certificates to some individual, or the score of bills to allow some local county, village or town tax, all of which will be printed under this act, especially when it will result in that large expenditure of which they are to pay their share.

At the next session of the Legislature a provision can

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be made for selecting and publishing in German and Spanish, the acts passed at this or previous sessions, of really a public and general nature, affecting the great mass of the people.

This can be done too at a much cheaper rate than that allowed by these acts, which is excessive and looks as if the Legislature had been trapped into a job.

Very respectfully,

EDMUND J. DAVIS, Governor.